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CHARLES E. HITCHCOCK, EDITOR.

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large supply of every superior Salt, which he will sell
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Painting executed with neatness and despatch.

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The subscriber would inform his former
customers and the public, that he still continues
at the old stand, next door to Williams &
& Co., where he will be happy to receive orders in
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wishes of whalers visiting these islands for recruits;
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cash or Bills of Exchange on England, France or
the United States.

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usually required by whalers touching at these
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Money advanced on liberal terms for Bills
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CONSTANTLY on hand and for sale by
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waiian Produce, consisting of Coffee, Sugar, Mo-
nani, Salt, Mamaki Kapa, Pulu or Moss, Goat
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of Oregon, California and the Hawaiian Islands. A
general assortment of Ship Chandlery and Provi-
sions, usually required by whalers touching at this port
for recruits, on hand, which will be supplied on liberal
terms for cash, or Bills of Exchange.

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The undersigned informs the people of
Honolulu, and masters of vessels visiting this
port, that he shall continue to carry on the SHIP
CARPENTERING business in all its branches at the
old stand of Drew & Co., where he is fully pre-
pared to execute all kinds of work in his line, such
as building, repairing and painting vessels.

Sign, &c., made to order at the shortest notice.
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HISTORY OF THE HAWAIIAN IS-
LANDS, embracing their Antiquities, Myth-
ology, Legends, Discovery by Europeans in the six-
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F. RODRIGUEZ VIDA
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assortment of Ship Chandlery, Provisions, &c.
usually required for whalers touching at this
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EVERETT & CO.,
will keep constantly on hand a general
assortment of English, French and American
Dry Goods, suitable for Oregon, California and these
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dlery and Provisions, required by whalers
touching at this port for recruits, which will be sold at low prices for cash or Bills of
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House Frame 17 by 27 feet, with square head
and new and perfect in every respect. For fur-
ther particulars apply to
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For sale, on application at the Home
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containing about 3 1/2 acres.

SOAP, &c.
161 BOXES Soap 20 lbs. each; 16 box-
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of Soap 5 lbs. each, assorted sizes.
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PULU Mattresses, adapted to the Cal-
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Executed with neatness and despatch, on liberal terms.

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Importers & Commission Merchants,
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S. H. W. & Co. import Sheathing Copper, Cordage,
Canvas, Provisions, Bread, Naval Stores, &c., and deal
in every variety of Ship Chandlery and Recruits for
whalerships.

* Bills of Exchange on the United States and Eu-
rope wanted.

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General Commission Merchants,
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Money advanced on favorable terms for Bills of
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S. or Europe, for which money will be advanced on fa-
vorable terms.

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Executed with neatness and despatch.
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Will execute with neatness and despatch, House, Sign,
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A large assortment of Broadcloths, Cassimeres, Vestings,
Cachemeres, and Linen Drillings, constantly for sale.
Garments made at short notice, in latest fashion.

JOHN J. CARANAVE,
IMPORTER OF EUROPEAN GOODS,
AND DEALER IN
Ship Chandlery and General Merchandise,
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[At the store formerly occupied by E. & H. Grimes.]

BUSH, MAKEE & CO.,
DEALERS IN
Ship Chandlery and General Merchandise,
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Ships supplied with recruits at the lowest market prices.
Money advanced on reasonable terms for Bills
of Exchange on the United States and Europe.

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Ships supplied with recruits at the lowest market price
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Ships supplied with Stock at the shortest notice.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
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J. H. LAFRENZ,
HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

French Polishing executed in the best manner.

A. B. BATES,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Office in the Honolulu House, opposite John R. Jasper, Esq.,
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DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
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DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
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HOUSE CARPENTERS AND JOINERS,
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COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
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GEO. H. GOULD,
TAHITI, Soc. Is.

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General Commission Merchants for the Coast
of California,
FRANK WARD,
W. M. SMITH,
SAN FRANCISCO.

D. F. PENHALLOW,
Exchange Broker,
HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

(On the Quay, next to Market Wharf.)

J. MADISON STEELE,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
LAHAINA, MAUI, H. I.

(Office in the Police Court, Hale Pili.)

THE POLYNESIAN.

THE CALIFORNIA CLAIMS.

The following is a summary of the report
of the Committee on Military Affairs, to
whom the Senate referred the investigation
of the memorial of Col. Fremont, asking an
investigation of the claims of citizens of
California against the United States, for
money and supplies furnished by them to the
United States, on the faith of that govern-
ment.

Col. Fremont's petition sets forth that, in
June, 1846, he was employed by the United
States as Brevet-Captain of Topographical
Engineers in California, and successfully
aided the people of that country in establish-
ing their independence, before the existence
of the war between the United States and
Mexico was known; their independence hav-
ing been proclaimed at Sonoma on the 5th
July, and the Mexicans routed; that as soon
as the war was known in California, the flag
of the United States was substituted for the
flag of independence; and that as a Territory
of the United States, they aided the military
operations against Mexico, in every possible
manner, feeling assured that the United
States would indemnify her citizens for what-
ever supplies they advanced. The memorial
further states, that Col. Fremont, in October,
1847, wrote to the Secretary of War to have
those claims admitted; who, in reply, recom-
mended him to seek special legislation on the
subject, for which purpose he now makes
this memorial; and mentioning that there
were now in Washington several United
States officers, and many citizens of Califor-
nia, who were entirely disinterested, and
competent to afford the government every in-
formation about these claims. Col. Fremont
states that the majority of these claims
were created with his knowledge and assent,
he, in every instance, interchanging proper
certificates, to guard against imposition. He
deems it an act of justice to both sides, that
these claims should be audited and settled
through the agency of the United States com-
missionary department in California, on ap-
plication thereof of the claimants in person,
with the exception of claimants in Washington
in their own proper person, which mode he sug-
gests as a preventative of these claims get-
ting into the hands of speculators. He states
that he is prepared to show that half a mil-
lion of dollars would cancel all Californian
claims and incidental expenses, but he pre-
fers to give his evidence before a committee.
His memorial further petitions for the investi-
gation as an act of justice to all parties
concerned, and prays that these claims should
be fairly and fully paid to the citizens of Cal-
ifornia, without the interposition of specula-
tors; deeming it his duty to assert their
claims, as well as his own, upon the govern-
ment. The memorialist concludes by de-
claring his reputation at stake in the settle-
ment of these claims, and by calling for a
committee to investigate them.

The next document published in the re-
port, is Col. Fremont's letter, of October 8th,
1847, to the Secretary of War, applying for
enlisted wherewith to pay the volunteers who
enlisted under him, for their services, and
also for re-embursing the Mexican citizens
who loaned him money on the faith of the
United States, for civil and military purposes,
recognizing him as Governor of the territory.

The Secretary of War, in his reply, of
October 15th, 1847, states, that he does not
consider himself, under existing laws, author-
ized to pay those claims, without their be-
ing first submitted to Congress.

The next is a copy of the resolution, dated
February 1st, 1848, granting the Military
Committee the necessary power for taking
testimony concerning the California claims,
and allowing them a clerk.

The following witnesses answered the sum-
mons of the Military Committee:—
Lieut. Col. Fremont, Col. W. H. Russell,
Missouri, Col. Joseph Childs, California;
Captain Samuel Hensley, California, J. R.
Wilson, U. S. Navy, Capt. Archibald Gilles-
pie, Capt. Richard Owens, Missouri, Risdon
Moore, Illinois, L. D. Vincenthall, Mis-
souri, Alex. Godey, Missouri, Marion Wise,
Missouri, Thomas Breckenridge, Missouri,
Jerome C. Davis, Missouri, Joseph Fergus-
son, Missouri, Eugene Russell, Missouri,
and Frank Ward, California.

The witnesses were required to testify to
the nature of the claims, and also as to the
origin and character of the revolutionary
movement in California, prior to the opera-
tions of the United States for its conquest.

The investigation commenced with Col.
Fremont reading his written statement in re-
gard to the California claims, and the per-
usal of similar statements by Capt. Gilles-
pie, and other witnesses.

Capt. Hensley being asked, by the com-
mittee, what he would estimate the amount of
the just claim of California upon the United
States at, replied, that, from the best infor-
mation he could obtain, he computed it at
seven hundred thousand dollars. This ques-
tion was put to Capt. Hensley, as a person
fully competent to answer it, having been
employed in California, as commissary and
quarter-master, during the whole of the revo-
lution there. A question was put to Capt.
Gillespie, asking him, whether, when he
joined Capt. Fremont, at the Talmath lake,
in May, 1846, he was charged with any
message to the latter, from the government;
to which he subsequently replied, in his writ-
ten statement, as will be seen. A written
question was given to each witness, asking
whether they had known of the Californian
authorities selling the national lands, and on
what terms, and what effect the revolution-
ary movement had in stopping these sales.

This question was answered by all the wit-
nesses, with but slight variation, to the effect
that the Californian authorities were hurried-
ly disposing of all the public lands and the
missions, at a merely nominal price, princi-
pally to British subjects and other foreigners,
manifestly for the purpose of placing Califor-
nia under British protection. One grant in
particular, was the subject of much com-
mentary through the country. It was the
cession, by the Mexican government, of a
large tract of country, along the valley of the
San Joaquin River, to an Irish Catholic
priest, named Macnamara, for the purpose
of establishing an Irish colony of two thou-
sand families. The considerations offered to
the Mexican government, as inducements to
grant this territory for an Irish colony, will
be seen in the correspondence of this clergy-
man with the Mexican President, which was
found by Col. Fremont among the govern-
ment archives at Los Angeles, the first of
which documents we give entire. The others
relate principally to the conditions of the
grant, and preliminary matters.

[This paper has no date.]

I, Eugenio Macnamara, Catholic priest
and apostolical missionary, take the liberty
of submitting to your excellency some re-
flections on a subject which at this time at-
tracts much public attention. I allude to
the expectations and actual condition of Up-
per California.

It does not require the gift of prophecy to
foresee that, within a little time, this fertile
country will cease to be an integral part of
this republic, unless prompt and efficient
measures are adopted to restrain foreign ra-
pacity. The immediate question which pre-
sents itself is, What are speediest and most
secure means of avoiding such a calamity?
The unanimous voice of the community re-
sponds, Colonization. The second question
is, Where shall we find the colonists who
possess all the necessary qualities, for an
object so desirable? Certainly not in Mex-
ico, and as little in any of its dependencies,
which are so thinly peopled. We have then
naturally to recur to Europe, which abounds
with an excess of population. What people
of this ancient continent is best calculated
for the ends of colonization—best adapted
to the religion, character, and temperament
of the inhabitants of Mexico? Emphatically,
I answer, the Irish—they are devout
Catholics, moral, industrious, sober, and
brave.

For this reason I propose, with the aid
and approbation of your excellency, to carry
forward this project, to place in Upper Califor-
nia a colony of Irish Catholics. I have
a triple object in making this proposition. I
wish, in the first place, to advance the cause
of Catholicism. In the second place, to con-
tribute to the happiness of my countrymen.
Thirdly, I desire to put an obstacle in the
way of further usurpations on the part of an
irreligious and anti-Catholic nation. I, there-
fore, propose to your excellency, that be
conceded to me an extent of territory on the
coast of Upper California, for the purpose
I have indicated.

I would prefer, with the permission of your
excellency, to place the first colonists on the
bay of San Francisco. Your excellency
will agree with me that this would be a pro-
per step, when it is remembered that the
Americans have possession of Bodega, a
port abandoned by the Russians, situated a
little to the north of San Francisco. I should
bring, for a beginning, one thousand families;
afterwards, should it appear well to your ex-
cellency, I would establish a second colony
near Monterey, and a third at Santa Barba-
ra. By this means, the entire coast, (by
which most danger is to be expected), would
be completely secured against invasions and
pillages of foreigners. For each family that
I bring, I will require the land that composes
one sitio de granda mayor, (a square
league, containing 4,428 acres) to be given
free of all cost; likewise, that the children
of the colonists, when they marry, shall re-
ceive a half sitio (2,214 acres) as a national
gift.

I should require, likewise, an exemption
from the payment of all classes of contribu-
tions for a certain number of years; that the
colonists, on taking possession of their lands,
shall consider themselves as under the pro-
tection of the government, and shall enjoy
all their rights.

There are other points of less importance,
which I do not touch upon now, as they can
be discussed to more advantage hereafter.

I have the satisfaction to be able to say,
that these propositions have received the
fullest approbation of the most illustrious
archbishop, the venerable head of the church
in this country.

This project which I lay before your ex-
cellency, ought to be effected on an extended
and liberal footing, in order to be positively
beneficial to the country.

Thus, in a few words, I have manifested
my opinion on this important subject, and
have presented some ideas pertinent to it,
which, if generously carried into effect, may
dispend happiness to many, and, in the end,
tend to the consolidation and integrity of this
great republic.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
your excellency's most obedient servant,
EUGENIO MACNAMARA.

To the Most Excellent Senior
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

Dr. John Baldwin, for sixteen years a resi-
dent in Mexico, testified, that while there he
had known the priest Macnamara, and, from
credible sources, had learned that this clergy-
man had, under the auspices of the British
legation, projected a plan to colonize
California with emigrants from Ireland. This
project had met the approbation of the Mex-
ican government; but that when Macnamara
had gone to California to mature his arrange-
ments, a fierce opposition to the project was
got up by several Mexican members of Con-
gress, on the ground that the object would
tend solely to the promotion of British inter-
est. The conquest and occupation of Califor-
nia by the United States entirely extin-
guished this question.

The evidence of Col. Fremont was in sub-
stance as follows:—
He first divided the consideration of the
California claims into two heads, namely,
the debt contracted under the flag of inde-
pendence, and those after the flag of the
United States was raised. He thought that
as the first movement was one of self-defence
on the part of American settlers, and as the
United States would receive the benefit of
the results of the movement, they were as

justly bound to pay the one set of claims as
the other, especially, as the various supplies
of necessities, horses, and money, which
the people of California afforded to Colonel
Fremont, were advanced on the strength of
that assurance. Col. Fremont left the United
States in the spring of 1845, on his third
expedition, to ascertain the most direct route
to the Pacific; and in order to avoid any
conflict with the Mexican authorities in Cal-
ifornia, left that province in the spring of
1846, and proceeded to the north end of
Talmath lake in Oregon, where he was de-
tained by the snows, and the hostility of the
Indians. While here, on the 8th of May,
two hundred horsemen came into his camp,
who informed him that a United States' officer
was endeavoring to reach him, but they
feared he would be unable to do so, on ac-
count of the numbers of Indians which sur-
rounded him. Col. Fremont, upon hearing
this, immediately started down the lake, with
a party of nine men, and after proceeding
about sixty miles, fell in with Lieut. Gilles-
pie and his party. Lieut. Gillespie brought
with him a letter of introduction from Mr.
Buchanan, and some letters to Col. Fre-
mont, from Mr. Benton and his family. Lieut.
Gillespie also verbally informed him that his
official instructions in coming to California,
were to try to ascertain the disposition of the
Californians towards the United States, and
as much as possible to conciliate their feel-
ings, in order to counteract the designs of
the British government upon that country.

These communications, and the imminent
dangers which threatened his small party,
three of whom were killed by the Indians on
the night he fell in with Lieut. Gillespie, in-
duced Col. Fremont to retrace his steps to
the valley of the Sacramento in California.
On reaching the Sacramento he learned that
General Castro was raising troops, and excit-
ing the Indians to attack and drive out
both the American settlers and his small
party. The urgency of the moment, there-
fore, compelled him to act a decisive part
and to lend his name and influence as an
American officer in forwarding the revolu-
tionary movement, which freed all that part
of the country north of the Bay of San Fran-
cisco from the Mexican authority.

The subsequent part of Col. Fremont's
deposition, narrates events relative to the
further warlike movements in California,
already known to the public. He then points
out the advantages to the United States of
their timely movement upon California, not
only by the acquisition of that territory, but
by frustrating the designs of Great Britain,
which power had a large fleet hovering
around the coast during these events. The
deponent then makes a general estimate of
the California claims, as follows:—

From 3,000 to 4,000 horses, averaging thirty dollars
each, say - \$120,000
2,000 head of cattle, averaging ten dollars, say - 20,000
1,000 saddles, bridles, spurs, and horse equipments,
averaging six dollars, - 6,000
400 rifles, at thirty dollars each, - 12,000
Claims for provisions taken, and damages at San
Pedro and Los Angeles, examined and allowed by
a commission before I left California, - 29,584
Provisions and supplies, to wit: Flour, grain, coffee,
sugar, vegetables, and other small items, to wit—
sheep, wagons, carts, damage to ranchos, say - 100,000
Services of the California battalion, say - 100,000

He then makes the following statement, in
order to show the anxiety of the Mexican
authorities in California, to convert that ter-
ritory into British property as much as pos-
sible, and in reply to the question of the
committee concerning the sales of the public
lands:—

"I did understand, from creditable report,
that the Californian authorities were grant-
ing and selling the missions and other public
domains. In some cases, these lands were
so conveyed simply as grants, and in others
as rewards for services rendered to the gov-
ernment, and in others for amounts of money
advanced, or were to be paid to the govern-
ment. I understood, that in this way nearly
all the missions south of San Louis Obispo,
the mission of San Raphael, in Sonoma, and
some of the large islands, on the coast were
granted. I understood that many of these
grants were hastily made, without the usual
legal forms, and wanting the usual formal-
ties; and I understood from citizens of the
country, such as Don Abel Stearns, of the
Pueblo de los Angeles, that these mission
grants were illegally made, and ought not to
be considered valid. I saw in the public ar-
chives deeds and titles of some of the lands
which were so conveyed away by the govern-
ment of the territory. Among them were
the following, viz:—

1. The Mission of San Gabriel, granted
on the 8th of June, 1846, to Julian Work-
man and Hugo Reid, (English subjects).
2. The Mission of San Rafael, to Julian
Workman and Francisco Plinio Temple, on
the 8th of June, 1846.
3. The Island of San Clemente, granted
about the middle of May, 1846, to Julian
Workman and Andres Pico.
4. Bird Island, granted on the 3d of June,
1846, to Julian Workman.
5. San Mateo, (part of the mission of Do-
lores) granted in the month of May to Cay-
etano Arenas.
6. Mission of San Louis Rey, granted (I
believe) in the month of June, 1846, to Sen-
or Cot.

"I submit the following extract from a
deed given by Governor Pico, under date of
June 8th, 1846, to Julian Workman and Hu-
go Reid, of the Mission of San Gabriel. A
copy of the deed is contained in a letter now
in my possession from Mr. Reid to Commodore
Stockton. The words of Governor Pico are:—

"Authorized beforehand by the most ex-
cellent assembly of the department to dispose
of the missions for the payment of their debts
and avoiding of the total ruin of them, as
well as to proportion resources that may
serve for the general defence in case of a
foreign invasion, which according to recent
dates is not far off, etc., etc."

Col. Fremont concludes, by expressing
his opinion, that this wholesale giving away
of the missions and public lands of Califor-
nia—including the great grant to Macnamara—was precipitated by the revolu-
tionary movements in the north.

Col. Wm. H. Russell was asked to state
to the committee what he knew with respect
to the number of American emigrants to the
Sacramento, who joined the California bat-
talion, and the nature of the personal sacri-
fices they made in doing so, and how far
their services were important during the war.
The substance of his written reply was as
follows:—

He joined Col. Fremont, in the month of
October, 1846, at San Francisco Bay. Col.
Fremont's force, when he joined him, was
small, and miserably provided and equipped;
but by his energy, he soon augmented it to
over four hundred men, well provided with
every necessary, including several pieces of
artillery. Col. Russell started from Inde-
pendence as commander of the party who
emigrated to the Sacramento, and he states
that about two hundred and fifty men out of
this party joined the California battalion under
Col. Fremont, leaving their families at
Sutter's settlement, without waiting to estab-
lish them comfortably in their new homes,
and subjecting themselves to every possible
degree of hardship and privation in order to
aid Col. Fremont in securing the indepen-
dence of the country. He gives to Colonel
Fremont the credit of having by his superior
boldness and energy, brought the war in
California to a speedy and successful termina-
tion. Capt. A. H. Gillespie, in his depo-
s